Amendments

Please amend the below claims as follows:

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An adenoviral vector as described in claim 1 or 15 wherein said deletion of said E1b region genes comprises p19, 55K, and pIX.

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An recombinant adenoviral vector as described in claim 1 or 15 wherein said heterologous gene encodes a protein selected from the group consisting of tumor necrosis factor alpha, interferon gamma, an interleukin, a cell suicide protein, cytosine deaminase, thymidine kinase and mip-3.

7. Cells comprising said adenoviral vectors of claim 1 or 15.

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A method for treating a mammal having a neoplastic condition in need of said treatment, comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective dose of said adenoviral vectors of claims 1, 5, 6 or 15.

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A recombinant adenoviral vector comprising a deletion of E1b region gene(s), but retaining the E1b promoter, and substituting for said E1b region gene(s) a heterologous gene that is operable linked to said E1b promoter.

Remarks

In view of the above amendments reconsideration of the pending claims is requested.